



# WEBHEATH ACADEMY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Looking Forward to School

# WELCOME TO WEBHEATH ACADEMY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Welcome to Reception at Webheath Academy Primary School.

Starting school is an important and exciting time for you and your child. Our aim is to ensure your child settles into his/her new surroundings as quickly as possible, and feels secure, safe and happy whilst in our care.

We hope that their journey with us is a happy and successful one.

We hope this booklet provides you with the information you need and answers some of the questions you may have.

We have also included a little bit of information about the staff so that you can get to know us better!

We look forward to working with you and your child in the coming year.

## Reception Teachers

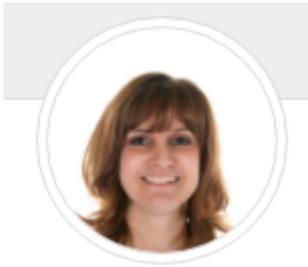


Miss Pettit  
EYFS Phase Leader  
Class Teacher



Mrs Holman  
Class Teacher

## Reception Teaching Assistants



Mrs Newburn  
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Hayward  
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Dean  
Teaching Assistant  
(until 10.30)



Mrs Emmerson  
Teaching Assistant  
(until 10.30)

## Morning Routine

Children come into school from 8.35am and enter via the green gates, ready for the register at 8.45am. (Please be aware these times may change)

Most children settle quickly at school, and we find that the only difficulties you have will be in persuading them to come home at the end of the day. In a new situation and with new people to get used to, however, it is possible that your child may be reluctant to leave you in the morning, even if they have been to a nursery or playgroup before. If they are a bit 'wobbly', there will always be a familiar face at the gate to help your child enter school safely and happily.

## End of the Day

At the end of the day (3.15pm), please come to the green gate where you dropped off to collect your child. Your child will be handed directly to you. Please remind your children that they are not allowed to play in the car park after school. Once all children have been collected is a handy time for a quick chat or catch up with a member of the EYFS team

It is our school policy that you must inform the school office or class teacher if someone other than yourself is collecting your child from school. It can be a stressful time for a child if they are unsure who is collecting them. We will ensure that once we have been informed of the changes that your child is too. For safeguarding reasons we do not release children to unfamiliar adults unless prior arrangements have been made and the class teacher has been made aware.

## Attendance

Regular attendance at school is vital to help children achieve and get the best possible start in life. It supports children to make strong friendship groups and feel part of a class. It has been proved that progress in education is much better when children attend school regularly.

### When your child is too ill to come to school

On the first day of your child's absence please telephone the school on 01527 544820 and choose option 1 for pupil absence. Leave a message stating your child's name, class and brief reason for absence. It is only necessary to contact us on the first morning of illness.

## If your child is late

Go to the office and sign your child in using the online system. Your child will then be taken to their class by a member of staff.

## Medical or dental appointment in school time

When you come to collect your child for any appointment, please collect from the office and sign them out using the online system. When you return your child to school after the appointment you will need to sign them back in at the office.

## Term Time Holidays

Holidays during term time are discouraged. Holidays are only authorised in exceptional circumstances. No work will be set by the teaching staff for holidays. A holiday leave form must be completed at least 4 weeks before the holiday (available from the school office).

## Medical Conditions

It is important that the school knows about any medical conditions which may affect your child's learning. For example, we need to be aware of eye and ear problems, asthma, allergies etc.

## Emergency Contact

From time to time accidents occur or children become ill. It is important that the school has an address and up to date contact number where parents or family members can be reached in an emergency. Please inform school if there are any changes.

What should your child bring to Reception every day?

- Book bag
- Water bottle
- A spare set of clothes (knickers, trousers/skirt and socks) to be left at school on their peg
- Jacket
- Suncream and hat
- Lunchbox (if your child has a packed lunch)

All items to be clearly labelled with the child's name.

### What should your child try to do for him/herself?

Throughout Reception, we encourage your child to develop their resilience and independence. You can help your child on this path in many different ways.

Children should be encouraged to:

- Undress and dress themselves
- Put on their jacket and be able to fasten it
- Take off and put on their jumper
- Put on their shoes and fasten buckles or velcro. We would discourage shoelaces at this stage. Slip-on shoes or easy fastenings will give that extra bit of independence.
- Use and flush the toilet themselves, and redress before washing and drying their hands
- Ask for help politely when they find something difficult

## How can parents help?

- Do things with your child and talk about it – whether it is everyday things such as shopping, playing outside, a walk or special things, such as buying a birthday present for a friend
- Play games together – board games such as Snap, Lotto, as well as football. Turn taking and losing are life skills they need to experience!
- Read stories to your child, teach him/her songs and rhymes
- Encourage him/her to draw, paint, colour and model with play dough and junk
- Encourage your child to hold their bag and water bottle when coming to reception – this will support them to remember what they need to take home at the end of the day
- Encourage your child to tidy away their toys
- Encourage good manners: 'please', 'thank you', 'good morning' and 'goodbye'

## Communication and Language

Many parents worry if their child will be able to tell the teacher when they need something or if they will make friends. Good communication skills will help them in everything they do.

### Listening & Attention Skills

Your child will be given many spoken instructions throughout their time at school and will need to be able to shift their attention from what they are doing to listen to what the teacher is saying. A lovely activity to promote this is to go on a 'listening walk' where your child listens for all the sounds around them in the park or town centre. You could also jot down all the sounds your child notices and talk about these back at home to retell the journey based on the sounds they heard.

### Understanding

Classroom instructions often contain several parts for children to remember. A simple game of 'Simon Says' can really help. You could give instructions containing two parts e.g. 'Simon says touch your nose, then clap your hands'. It is a good idea to start off with one step instructions and gradually build up to two or even three.

## Speaking

Sorting games help to develop vocabulary. For example when packing a suitcase, as this is a great way to help word categorisation. Items can be sorted into different piles such as clothing, toys, and things for washing ourselves. Outdoor 'treasure hunts' work well too. Collecting objects found on walks in the park or on the beach help introduce new types of vocabulary such as describing words. Treasure can also then be used to create feely bags, where objects must be described by the way they feel before revealing what the object is.

In Reception, we will encourage your child to speak in full sentences. When talking to your child model how to speak in full sentences and ask them to repeat it back to you.

## Parents as Partners

The home learning environment plays a huge role in helping children to feel safe, secure, happy and excited to learn. At Webheath we feel passionate about making strong links to continue your child's learning journey and with this partnership your child will continue to make progress with lifelong learning.

### "Tapestry" - an online learning journey

Your child will have an online learning journey, where some of their achievements and learning are documented. As a parent you will be able to access this, share it with your child and even comment on it. There is an opportunity for yourselves to add observations and experiences from home.

## How to stay involved?

Over the year we will share how your child will learn in the Early Years. This will provide you with practical ways to support your child at home.

- Parents Evenings
- Wow moments—Share with us the things your child does to make you go Wow!  
You can share at any time on Tapestry.
- Home Reading Record
- Parent Workshops
- We have an active parents group.
- PING free parent app
- Twitter
- School website

## Uniform

School uniform helps each child quickly develop a sense of belonging to the school. Our children pride themselves in looking smart in their school uniform.

All the children at Webheath are asked to wear the following.

- Grey trousers/shorts (Boys)
- Grey skirt or pinafore dress (Girls)
- White polo shirt (with or without logo)
- Burgundy sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without the school logo)
- Red and white dresses during the summer months
- Socks – Grey or black (Boys)
- Socks or Tights – grey, white, burgundy, black (Girls)
- Black shoes
- Sunhat
- Water bottle

### PE Kit

- Burgundy shadow stripe shorts
- White PE tshirt with logo
- Tracksuit burgundy with logo
- Black pumps and trainers
- PE bag Burgundy

### Outdoor Learning

- A set of waterproofs
- Wellington boots

These need to be kept in school as part of our curriculum the children have access to the outdoors everyday.

All children also require a school book bag, which will help them to carry reading books, and letters to and from school.

All school uniform, PE kit, book bags, and PE bags are available from

<http://www.orchardclothing.co.uk>

[www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/webheath](http://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/webheath)

<http://www schooldays-bromsgrove.co.uk/>

<https://myclothing.com>

## Snack and Lunch

### Snack

We are fortunate to receive free fresh fruit each day. Your child will also receive free milk until they are 5.

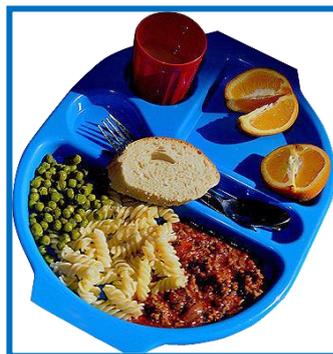
If you send in a snack please ensure that it is a healthy snack e.g. no crisps, cakes etc

Your child will be able to have a drink of water throughout the day. Please provide a named water bottle for your child to bring into school each day.



### Lunch

Reception children are able to have a free school dinner (hot or cold) or if you wish children may bring in a packed lunch from home. Each morning the children on arrival at school will choose what they are having for dinner that day.



### Toilets

There are toilets situated just outside the reception classroom. The children have free access to them all day. It would be helpful if you could encourage the children to be aware of their own personal hygiene by practising undoing and doing up their own clothes, flushing the toilets, and washing their hands.

# The Early Years Foundation Stage

It is important that children know how to learn just as much as what to learn. They learn best by doing. They need first hand experiences and learning that makes sense to them. In fact they learn best through play. "Play is work, work is play."

Here at webheath we are lucky to have both an indoor and outdoor classroom to explore and learn in.

The EYFS curriculum is organised into 7 areas of learning, these are:

## Prime Areas

### Communication and Language



Sharing and listening to stories



Talking and sharing ideas

### Physical Development



Look how I can balance



Practicing our fine and gross motor skills

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Taking turns and listening to each other



Exploring with our friends



# Specific Areas of Learning

## Literacy



Lots of mark making



Lots of word building, leading to writing

## Maths



Exploring numbers and adding



Counting

## Expressive Arts and Design

Exploring materials



Story telling



## Understanding of the World

Curiosity and observing



Exploring seasons and the weather



# Outdoor Learning

## Forest School

As well as daily opportunities to access the outdoors, our children at Webheath benefit from weekly Forest School Sessions. Forest School is all about being in the outdoors and the children being given an opportunity to develop confidence, curiosity, risk take and self esteem through hands on learning. It is used to help enhance the EYFS curriculum.



**Your child will need to come to school on a Forest School Day**

- Wearing old clothes—Long sleeve top and trousers
- Please send in a pair of Wellies for them to keep at school
- Please send in a pair of waterproofs to be kept in school

We hope this will be the start of a long and happy journey through Webheath Academy Primary School.